

Frequently Asked Questions In-Use Off-Road Diesel Vehicle Regulation

Changing Fleet Size FAQ Revised March 2012

Q – What are the different fleet sizes and why is changing fleet size important?

A – There are three different fleet size categories in the Regulation for In-Use Off-Road Diesel Fueled Fleets (Off-Road regulation): small, medium, and large. Each fleet size has different compliance requirements, including different annual reporting deadlines. Small fleets are 2,500 horsepower (hp) or less, medium fleets are between 2,501 and 5,000 horsepower, and large fleets are above 5,000 horsepower.

Generally requirements for smaller fleet size categories are less stringent and take effect later than for larger fleets. If a fleet changes size, it may have different compliance or reporting requirements, and may have to comply with those requirements sooner or later than expected. Therefore, it is important for fleets to understand the ramifications of changing fleet size throughout the course of the Off-Road regulation.

Q - What are the requirements for a fleet that decreases in fleet size?

A - If a fleet decreases in fleet size (i.e., a large fleet becomes a medium or small fleet, or, a medium fleet becomes a small fleet), the fleet may meet the requirements corresponding to either fleet size (i.e., their current or previous fleet size) on the next reporting date.

For example, if a large fleet shrinks to a medium fleet in 2013, for the next reporting date (March 1, 2014), the fleet may choose to:

- Report as a large fleet, and show that it met the large fleet compliance requirements on that date; or
- Choose not to report, since medium fleets are not required to report in 2014 (the first medium fleet annual reporting deadline is March 1, 2016).

Q - What are the requirements for a fleet that increases in fleet size?

A - If a fleet increases in fleet size (i.e., a small fleet becomes a medium or large fleet, or, a medium fleet becomes a large fleet), the fleet must meet the annual reporting requirements of the increased fleet size on the next applicable annual reporting date. However, the fleet is not required to meet the compliance requirements of the increased fleet size until the reporting date two years subsequent to the year it changed fleet size.

While this document is intended to assist fleets with their compliance efforts, it is the sole responsibility of fleets to ensure compliance with the In-Use Off-Road Diesel Vehicle Regulation.

For example, if a fleet was small at the beginning of 2012, but grows to a large fleet (past 5,000 hp) in July, 2012, the fleet would need to complete annual reporting on March 1, 2013 (the next applicable large fleet annual reporting date). However, the fleet would not have to comply with the large fleet compliance requirements until March 1, 2015 (two years from the reporting date after the fleet grew to a new size). Note that the fleet must show compliance with the performance standards by March 1, and not January 1, for the first compliance year of the fleet's new size. For all subsequent years, the fleet must be in compliance by January 1.

As another example, if in 2012 the small fleet grew to a medium fleet, the fleet would have no requirements until the first medium fleet annual reporting deadline of March 1, 2016. The fleet would then need to comply with the medium fleet compliance requirements on January 1, 2017, and not March 1st. This is because there are no compliance requirements two years from the date that the fleet grew; therefore the fleet must comply starting on January, 1, 2017, like any other medium fleet.

As a last example, if a fleet was small at the beginning of 2015 but grows to medium (past 2,500 hp) in mid-2015, the fleet would need to complete annual reporting on March 1, 2016 (the next applicable medium fleet annual reporting date) and would have to begin complying with the medium fleet compliance requirements on March 1, 2018 (two years from the reporting date after the fleet grew to a new size).

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